

Spotlight on Support Staff: Lowell Bjerke, Head Custodian



Lowell Bjerke has worked at the Clearbrook-Gonvick School district for 22 years. He is married to Margaret and they have six children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren between the two of them. Lowell was born and raised in the area.

Why did you decide to work at the school? I was looking for a full time job in the Clearbrook area.

What did you do before coming to Clearbrook-Gonvick? After graduation, I went to Detroit Lakes Technical College for welding. I worked at Clearbrook Lumber for 13 years, then Lakehead Pipeline before coming to the Clearbrook-Gonvick School District.

What is your favorite part of your job? Working with the staff and children

What is the biggest challenge of your job? The hardest part of my job is keeping everything running smoothly.

What do you do when you are working? I spend time with my family, ride motorcycle, and work on my classic cars.

What are your favorite aspects of the Clearbrook-Gonvick community? This community is a nice place to work and live.

Any other favorites you would like to share? I enjoy visiting with friends and relatives and being a grandparent!

And now a little about Lowell Bjerke from the staff and students.

Why do you think Lowell decided to work at school? “He knows so much about everything and he can use his vast knowledge.” “Loves to be around people/kids.” “He likes kids.” “His wife doesn't give him enough "fixing" to do at home to keep him busy. ;)” “He likes to be around people” “To earn some money” “I think Lowell decided to work here because our school is cleaner than Bagley's” “Because he likes to work with the school.” “Because he like to be around kids.”

What do you think Lowell does when he is not working here at school?

“Works on his cars” “Works on cars and other projects.” “He spends his time working on his house & repairing cars (usually mine!).” “He also enjoys car shows.” “Working on cars.” “Works on cars.” “He works on cars” “Hunting” “Watching TV or hanging out with Nieces and Nephews” “He is working on cars.” “He works on cars a lot doing paint jobs and working under the hood.”

What do you think Lowell was like in High School? “He was a normal student.”

“I think he was kind and sweet...but REALLY adventurous when it came to cars & driving.” “Motor Head” “Hands-on...Good Friend/Helpful” “Very quiet” “Wore a leather jacket, had a motorcycle...the quiet rebel.” “He was probably a sweetheart!” “I think he had a mullet.” “He probably had a mullet, wore a football jersey and dated the hottest girl.” “I think he was good in the shop classes.”

What is one great thing about Lowell? “He works hard.” “Always willing to get something done for you when you ask.” “He always finds time to do anything he's asked to do & he always does it with a smile.” “Approachable. You can talk to him about anything.” “He is always incredibly helpful and friendly.” “He is quick to help when asked.” “He smiles ALL the time!” “Lowell is always friendly.” “He is always here to let me into school if I forget some homework.” “He cleans like a pro”

If Lowell did not work here at school, what job do you think he would have?

Why? “Fixing cars because he loves them.” “Working on cars or anything that would allow him to help people, because he really seems to enjoy helping others.” “Own an automotive/autobody shop.” “He would work with the pit crew in NASCAR” “Service Manager. Talented mechanically...yet good with people.” “He would be a forklift or

crane operator because he kind of looks like someone who would do this kind of work.”
“I think he would be a nice child's therapist, because he is nice and really knows how to talk to people.” “He would be a autobody tech because he likes them.” “I think he would restore cars for a living.”

If you could send Lowell on a vacation to anywhere in the world, where would you send him? WHY? “Indy 500” “Detroit, MI. Automobile capital of the world. He'll think he's in heaven!” “Daytona” “Alaska” “ I would send him to Norway. Maybe he would like it.” “I would send him to LA so he could shop for the best cleaning supplies.” “I would send him to Cuba because of all the old cars.” “To Alaska because he likes the outdoors.”

What is one thing Lowell ALWAYS says? “YES” “you betcha” “Have a good day!” “Good morning!” “You Bet” “No problem” “Hi.” “I've got it covered” “How's it going?”